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All persons who desire to have their names mentioned in our columns must sign their name, not necessarily their address, to the editor, or to the author of the article. All matter intended for publication should be written on note size paper, with ink, and upon both sides.

Correspondence from practical farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, unless he wishes otherwise. If not, the writer may wish his name to be omitted.

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A Plague of Insects.

Some clever thinkers declare that the numberless kinds of bugs, worms and flies which harm the crops are a blessing in disguise because they reduce the output of farm produce and so prevent a constant glut in the markets. At any rate they put skill and brains at a premium, for the farmer who would successfully fight the new pests that appear every year or two, must know something of which the old-timers never heard. Even with the vigorous warfare now carried on, an authority of the National Academy of Science estimates that one-tenth the total farm produce, or \$30,000,000 worth, is spoiled by insects every year. One-half of this is reckoned as loss to the staple crops. Credit is given to various insects as follows: Hessian fly's damage to wheat, rye and barley one-tenth, or \$40,000,000; chinig bug, \$7,000,000; corn-root worm, ten to twenty per cent. in many States, certainly averaging five per cent., or \$37,000,000 of the corn crop; total to growing cereals, \$84,000,000. In seven Gulf States damage to corn has been estimated at twenty per cent. and at five per cent. for the whole country, making the total \$40,000,000. All other stored grain is estimated at three per cent., or \$20,000,000, making a total approximate damage to stored grain amounting to \$60,000,000. Grass and hay \$20,000,000. Cotton, by the cotton worm, boll-worm and boll-weevil, \$30,000,000 in 1880. Since then this loss has decreased, but Texas in 1894 lost \$8,000,000 by the boll-weevil, and \$15,000,000 is considered a low annual estimate of its work on cotton. Tobacco has given up eight per cent., or \$2,000,000, to a horde of insects; potatoes, six per cent., or \$10,000,000, to the Colorado potato beetle. No figures are given for fruits, truck, domestic animals and timber, but a moment's thought will show that the loss in these items must be enormous, although hard to estimate closely because of a lack of separate statistics for loss by insects.

The total value thus destroyed is a vast annual tax large enough to pay interest on all the improved roads, canals, schools, etc., that the most sanguine friends of the farmers might desire. Whether such destruction is a concealed blessing may well be doubted. At least nobody would care to assert that we have not already a plenty of harmful insects. Rather it should be a leading object of the scientists to prevent the introduction of further costly intruders of the gypsy-moth description.

Planting and Culture of Potatoes.

A careful and instructive paper on potato growing was given at the New Bedford (Mass.) Farmers' Institute last week, the speaker being Prof. W. P. Brooks of the State agricultural college.

Professor Brooks pointed out that almost all of the varieties which have been introduced within the past dozen years have been subjected to careful trials in the experiment station at Amherst. In every trial the old standard varieties, Beauty of Hebron and Early Rose, have been included; and while occasionally some of the newer varieties have exceeded these in productivity, both of these have always been found close to the head, and last year among some forty varieties the Beauty of Hebron gave the largest yield of all. Professor Brooks said that more apparently depended upon securing seed of good quality which has been well kept than on the name it chance to bear. In Amherst, Beauty of Hebron seed raised in northern Maine was found to give superior results to that of home production. The increase in yield and earliness was more than sufficient to cover the extra cost of the northern seed.

The importance of adopting methods of preventing of seed was pointed out. Soaking in water for an hour and a half in a solution of corrosive sublimate at the rate of two ounces to fifteen gallons of water, or formalin, at the rate of eight fluid ounces to fifteen gallons of water, has been found effective. The seed should be soaked before cutting.

Professor Brooks next called attention to the benefits following budding seed potatoes. They should be washed and soaked in one of the following solutions for prevention of seed and spread in a thin layer in a moderate light room where the temperature will fall below about 45° or 50°F. at night, and be likely to rise above 70° F. by day. If they should remain about four or five weeks during which time the skin will turn green and short, tough sprouts will start. These sprouts are so thick and tough that the potatoes can be handled and planted without material injury to them.

Potatoes so treated will give an earlier and better crop than those handled in the ordinary way. Tuber of medium size are to be preferred and they should be cut into pieces

containing about two eyes each.

The nature of the soil needed for success in potato growing was briefly spoken of. Bristol County possesses large areas of the moderately light loams which give an early crop of good quality.

The question of selection of fertilizers for potatoes was discussed at considerable length. The fact was pointed out that by purchasing unmixed materials and combining them at home a considerable money saving is possible, and the following mixture of materials, it was stated, had given excellent crops in Amherst. In each one hundred pounds was nitrate of soda fifteen pounds, dried blood eighteen pounds, tankage or dry-ground fish twenty pounds, solid phosphate thirty pounds, high-grade sulphate of potash seventeen pounds.

This mixture should be used in quantities varying from about 1200 pounds to one ton per acre, according to the quality of the soil. Professor Brooks said that experiments in Amherst and other places indicated that an application of fertilizers in the drill usually gave results with potatoes superior to those obtained by broadcast application, but where the quantity employed was heavy, it is probably best to apply about half broadcast, the balance in the drill, taking care to spread the latter somewhat widely the full length of the drill to avoid danger of burning the seed. Such danger is greater with such mixtures as he had recommended than with the ordinary potato fertilizer, as the materials were more concentrated.

"Very thorough preparation of the soil," said Professor Brooks, "is profitable." He called attention to the very heavy yield obtained by Professor Roberts in the Cornell Experiment Station without manures or fertilizers, as the result of exceedingly thorough tillage in preparation for the crop and during its growth.

If the soil permits the potato should be planted rather deeply in order to avoid the necessity for ridging, as the latter allows loss of a greater amount of water from the soil by evaporation.

Professor Brooks stated that where the crop is grown upon a large scale the use of the potato planter is almost a necessity, and he especially commended the work done by the Robbins planter.

The objects in view in the culture of the crop should be, not killing weeds, but the prevention of the growth of weeds, and the maintenance of a layer an inch or two in thickness of mellow earth at the surface for the purpose of checked evaporation of water from the soil. Culture should begin before the crop is up with the weeder or the smoothing harrow. It should be given frequently enough to prevent weeds starting. The weeder and harrow should at first be depended upon, but when the crop is a few inches high, a four-tooth cultivator should be employed. The surface of the field should be kept as level as circumstances permit. If experience indicates that the tubers will become exposed to the air if there is no ridging, then the crop should be slightly ridged at the last cultivation. Prout's horse hoe is a useful implement for doing this work.

Experiments with Sheep.

The Maine station has representatives of five of the leading breeds, viz.: Shropshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Oxford and Cheviot. In the past the station has been able to carry during the summer months from twenty to thirty-five breeding Shropshire ewes on a paddock containing 5½ acres which produced grass only. This work was continuous for six years, and the breeding animals averaged to weigh from 110 to 150 pounds each; shearing 8½ pounds of wool, and yielding an average of 11½ lambs each per year. During that time the animals were in perfect health. One of the investigations with sheep of interest is an attempt to determine the limits of intensive work by setting apart a tract of ten acres of good clay loam plow land and devoting it to the summer feeding and pasturing of about fifty ewes and lambs. The number will be increased or diminished as the food produced on the land indicates as necessary.

Another phase of work going on is the breeding of winter lambs from Dorset sheep. The high price of light weight, but fat lambs, during the spring months argued strongly in favor of this system over summer and fall marketing of the later born lambs. The chief difficulty encountered is in getting the ewes to breed sufficiently early and a number of expedients to overcome this are being tried.

Orono, Me. C. D. WOODS.

Insuring a Fodder Supply.

Hay is likely to be scarce and high in the East still another season. Old hay has been cleared out more closely than usual under the influence of the high prices so long prevailing. Nothing but a remarkable change in the conditions so far prevailing this season can prevent a short crop. Many wise farmers are forestalling a probable shortage by planting all spare land to fodder corn, hungarian and the millets.

On some dairy farms there is plenty of land, but the manure has nearly all been used for early sowed crops and for seeding down. In such cases the question is between buying fertilizer, the purchase of growing manure or facing a reduction of live stock before the coming winter. Assuming a short hay crop, the problem will be worth thinking out for the conditions of the particular farms.

On good, strong, fairly moist sod land the use of high-grade fertilizer, aided by what manure can be had, usually secures a very profitable crop of fodder corn.

In some localities there are river and lowland natural mowings which never fail to produce fair crops of poor to medium hay. These mowings if bought cheap will greatly help in piecing out the winter supply of cow fodder. Poor hay requires more grain,

but grain is not likely to be so high in price as formerly. The summer, if a dry one, will make haying easy on lands which last summer were flooded nearly all the time.

Reduction of stock, the third alternative, is always practiced by large numbers of farmers after poor hay years, and for that reason cows must then be sold for less than their value, on account of the large number forced on the market. If there are poor cows in the herd, the sooner they are sold the better, as a matter of course. But, unluckily, many farmers will sell their best cows because the price looks attractive, and then winter a call herd that could never pay even if hay were cheap.

Under average conditions the farmer may

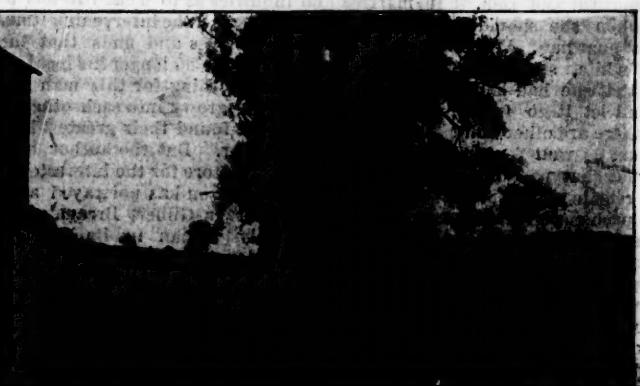
of from \$125,000 to \$300,000 annually. It means enhanced valuation of farms and an improvement of general agricultural conditions.

All the counties in the State except Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauque, Franklin, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, Richmond, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming have filed petitions requesting road improvement under the Higgle-Armstrong Act. Already forty-six counties have petitioned for 2414 miles of highways, and nineteen counties have had 186 miles finished. From no county where one piece of road has been finished has the State engineer failed to receive the second request for additional road construction.

GOOD ROADS IN NEW YORK STATE.



Road before improvement.



State road in progress, June, 1902.



Road completed, July 23, 1902. Northeast from Troy, N. Y. Base and top of crushed local quartzite; base bound with screenings of sand and top bound with screenings of Canajoharie limestone.

combine various methods of insuring himself against a shortage in fodder. He may plant what corn, etc., he can under fairly safe and inexpensive conditions. He may keep a lookout for bargains in grass and buy early if needed, and he may watch his herd carefully and sell off the poorest as soon as he gets a chance. These measures, too, are likely to prove pretty good policy for a dairy farmer during any kind of a season.

New Roads in New York State.

A few months work under direction of the State engineer makes a wonderful change in the old roads. The illustrations, furnished under direction of State Engineer E. A. Bond, show a sample road in Rensselaer County before, during and after rebuilding. Fillings have been made, grades reduced, foundations and drains laid and proper road material applied.

In some sections, a part of the work has been done by convicts. Broome County reports that the practice reduced the number of prisoners under sentence from an average of forty-two for the year prior to an average of less than eleven, thereby making a net saving in the maintenance of prisoners of over \$4000 per annum, and also an additional saving in the charges for turnkey's fees and discharges, as provided for by law, under what was known as the old fee system. I think it can be safely

stated that the system adopted by this one town, by placing prisoners under sentence at hard labor, has resulted in a saving to the county in the costs of maintenance and as a result of their labor, of at least \$8000 per annum.

Highways in the neglected condition in which they are found today throughout the State isolate the farmer from three to five months in the year, drives the young man or woman to the city or village as a result of discontentment, and is creative of social evils. In Hancock County such places as Bar Harbor and the coming resorts at Seal, Northeast and Southwest Harbors, account for much of it, scattered all along the miles and miles of pleasant roads of Mt. Desert Island, for these roads are an ever-growing market for choice native garden truck.

The shores of Frenchman's Bay give notable signs that such market gardens are conducted there, too. The proprietors of many of these farms are what the public calls "rounders," that is, they are intelligent, able-bodied men who have worked in many places and at many sorts of labor, and during their "rounder" career they become

In fact many counties are very much alive to the advantages to be obtained, and systematic efforts have been made to lay out long stretches of highway in order to make systematic plans for the country and to cheapen the cost of construction.

Since a year ago, in January, twenty-seven counties have appropriated \$2,007,812.50 as their half of the cost of constructing 470 miles of highway during the coming year, and it remains for the State of New York to appropriate an equal amount as its half of the cost of construction as provided by the law.

Under the Higgle-Armstrong Act the State grants aid to the amount of fifty per cent. of the cost of construction under the supervision and direction of the State engineering department, the counties having elected to pay thirty-five per cent. of the cost by a resolution of the board of supervisors, provided the resolution is based upon a petition either of a supervisor or the town board or abutting property owners, which makes a fifteen per cent. charge as against the town or abutting property owners. The Fuller law is an supplement to the preceding, and provides fifty per cent. State aid for the care and repair of side roads.

Seashore Farming.

All along our rural roads, especially near Mt. Desert Island, Me., may now be noted many instances of prosperity and signs of progress, and who the people are and who are carrying on improved farming is an interesting study, as described by the local newspaper. In Hancock County such

places as Bar Harbor and the coming resorts at Seal, Northeast and Southwest Harbors, account for much of it, scattered all along the miles and miles of pleasant roads of Mt. Desert Island, for these roads are an ever-growing market for choice native garden truck.

It is a good thing to encourage in every way any tendency to check an unhealthy flow from the country to the city. There are several tendencies in evidence. The growth of electricity as applied to means of transportation tends to a certain degree to exercise a centrifugal force to offset the centripetal force of steam. Exactly as the uses of steam have tended to

gather men into masses, so now electricity, as applied to transportation, has tended to scatter them out again. Trolley lines running out into the country are doing a great deal to render it possible to live in the country, and yet not lose the advantages of the town. The telephone is not to be minimized as an instrument with a tendency in the same direction. Rural free delivery is playing its part along the same lines. But no one thing can do as much to offset the tendency toward an unhealthy trend from the country into the city as the making and keeping of good roads.

GOOD ROADS AND THE FARMERS.

They are needed for the sake of their effects upon the industrial conditions of the country districts, and I am almost tempted to say that they are needed even more for their effect upon the social conditions of the country. If winter means to the average morasses, through which he has to go his bent on business, or to wade and swim if bent on pleasure; if winter means that, if an ordinary rain comes the farmer's girl or boy cannot use his or her bicycle, if a little heavy water means a stoppage of all communication, why you have got to expect that there will be a great many young people of both sexes who won't find farm life attractive.

It is for this reason, among others, that I feel the work you are doing is so pre-eminently one for the interest of the nation as a whole. I congratulate you upon the fact that you are doing it. In our American life it would be hard to overestimate the amount of good that has been accomplished by associations of individuals who have gathered together to work for a common object which was to be of benefit to the community as a whole. And among all the excellent objects for which men and women combine to work today, there are few indeed who have a better right to command the energies of those engaged in the movement, and the hearty sympathy and support of those outside, than this movement in which you are engaged.

Cultivating the Crops.

Where the preparatory work for the crops, corn and potatoes, was properly done, that of their after cultivation will be more easily done. There is a great contrast between this spring and last, as regards the weather and work on the farm.

One year ago it was very hard getting the seed into the ground in any fair condition or season, on account of the continual rains; while this spring there has been no delay in work on account of bad weather.

This work has been well done and in better season than usual. But soil is getting very dry and a good rain is much needed to help the crops along. There has been no rain to speak of for a long time. It is remarkable that vegetation appears so thrifty, and it must be owing to a large amount of water in the ground from early storms, that has since been slowly drawn upon for surface moisture. There are present signs of rain, which it is to be hoped we shall soon get.

On account of the dry weather corn as a usual thing has been planted somewhat earlier than usual. Our own planting was completed on May 15, but of course this work will be continued for some time yet. Owing to the large amount of corn now grown mainly as a crop for fodder, the work of cultivation will be correspondingly increased.

One great advantage farmers now have over former years, is in having tools so made as to admit of the work being done much faster and better. But it is necessary for best results that this work be commenced early and continued until no longer needed. The weeder, an implement meant for the first cultivation of the corn crop, or until it gets too large for the purpose, is well designed for the work. It takes a wide sweep, runs shallow, just stirring the surface soil, covering the entire ground without regard to the corn. But there is little danger of injury on this account, while the loosening of the entire surface soil will be found of great advantage.

But to be the most successful with the implement it should be started in season a little ahead of the grass or weeds. It will not matter even if the corn is not above ground. The weeder should be used every few days. A large area can be gone over in a day, and if it is dry this frequent stirring of the top soil will form a mulch, preventing the too rapid evaporation of the water from underneath.

After a time it will be necessary to make use of the cultivator in this work. There are various forms of these, and the farmer should select the best for his purpose. In my vicinity a two-horse spring-tooth machine is used and much liked. This goes aside the rows, thus working very close to the crop, corn or potatoes, in this way doing better work than most other kinds.

Another thing, the ground between the rows is cultivated twice at one time, doing away with the hand hoe. The old rule used to be to hoe corn twice and potatoes once. But this was at a time when suitable implements for cultivation were not in existence, and the work had to be largely done with the hand hoe, requiring much time and hard labor, as the writer well knows.

No such rule should apply now. The crop should be cultivated as often and so long as needed. In this way the soil will be kept mellow, encouraging the growth of corn or potatoes, while that of grass or weeds will be kept down, which is of the utmost importance on a farm.

After the corn gets well to growing it will not be long before the ground will be occupied and shaded

Butter Firm, Cheese Lower.

The market is steady with receipts a little less, demand moderate and prices of some grades ruling one-half cent higher than last week. The market situation on the whole is satisfactory for the season, but the firmness is largely because of the poor pasture and decreased milk yield. Extra choice lots of Northern creamery bring 22 cents in tubs and 23 cents in boxes or prints. The print and box goods are in too large supply and sell with some difficulty comparatively. Top dairy quotation is 21½. Dairy stock in tubs is less plenty than in boxes, and tub packing is advised except for special lots. Inferior grades of dairy are in poor demand at prices holding last week.

Chapin & Adams: "The market is firm at 2 to 3 cent above last week. The drought and cold weather has kept back the pastures and lessened the output. Not much stock is yet going into storage here. The outlook is good from the seller's point of view."

Cheese is in moderate supply, but demand is rather light. Quality of much of the new make is not very attractive to consumers. Prices in Boston and also at most other markets are a fraction lower. Old cheese can still be had and at unchanged prices, but there is not much of it left. Most of the sales of best new twin cheese are at 12 cents, with fair to good selling at 10 to 11½ cents.

The New York butter market shows little change since last week. Receipts have been rather large, being nearly twenty-five thousand packages for Monday and Tuesday of this week. Demand is sufficient to take care of the supply, with some help from storage men who are buying several thousand packages a day. The situation is firm, and some dealers are holding in expectation of an advance. The bulk of extra creamery sells at 22 cents, with a few fancy lots a fraction higher, and some poor lots selling as low as 18 cents. The market for dairy butter is rather quiet and holds mostly at 20 to 21 cents. Imitation and other factory grades are rather scarce.

Cheese arrives freely, with a larger proportion of large white. Demand is moderate. Exporters are buying fairly well at about 11½ cents. The declining tendency of nearly all lines of cheese has caused retailers to buy in rather small lots of late, but the drop is much less than has often occurred at this season. A year ago there was an average fall of about 2 cents at about this time. Pasture conditions this year are very much less favorable and prices are not considered likely to reach a low level.

Makers of renovated butter, representing, it is claimed, about forty concerns, seem to have made some sort of a secret agreement at their recent meeting in Chicago. It is asserted that a committee was appointed and the packing stock will all be purchased by this committee. The committee will then sell the butter to such members to the agreement as desire it. This packing stock is the more or less damaged stuff which is bought as raw material by the makers of renovated. There are something over fifty process butter manufacturers in the entire country, and about forty of them are said to belong to the association.

Dealers who handle renovated butter generally agree that such products are gaining ground at the expense of honest butter on the one side and of oleo on the other.

Said a Boston buyer who has been traveling through the West: "It looks as if process butter would be a strong competitor for creamery the coming season. The process makers get packing stock so much lower that they can sell at a much lower figure than a year ago. If we lay down process at five cents lower than creamery, I am satisfied we will do a big business in the coming season in that line. In the way of oleo the outlook is very light. The make is not so large as last year. Of course prices had a great deal to do with this. The fight made on colored oleo favoring uncolored product seems to have been a boomerang. It looks to me as if the creamery interests would have been better served had the old law been left unchanged. The great increase in manufacture of process butter looks like a third party had slipped in and gotten the advantage."

A letter from the secretary of the Manila Chamber of Commerce, in acknowledging receipt of some sample tins of canned butter shipped from San Francisco, says it arrived in first-class condition. This letter suggests that there is a ripe field for the successful introduction of butter in the Philippines, as no butter or milk is produced at Manila, but all is shipped in under cold storage from Australia.

Exports from Boston for week were two thousand pounds butter and 113,330 pounds of cheese. Receipts for the week at Boston, 30,321 tubs and 30,134 boxes, or 1,492,362 pounds butter, 4223 boxes cheese, besides 224 boxes for export, and 27,756 cases eggs, compared with corresponding week last year 33,749 tubs, 23,309 boxes, or 1,637,392 pounds butter, 2037 boxes cheese and 28,688 cases of eggs. Receipts at New York were 38,700 packages butter, 5400 packages cheese and 29,500 cases eggs. Same week last year, 45,376 packages butter, 21,372 packages cheese and 51,644 cases eggs.

Active Vegetable Trade.

Boston dealers report demand seasonably good in most lines. Dry weather and frost has reduced receipts of native fresh vegetables. The market for old potatoes is irregular, lower grades being weak and inclined to decline in price, while best lots are fully up to last quotations. Dealers say that the bulk of the potato trade is still in old stock, the quality of which has held up very well this season. When quality becomes poor many consumers, able to afford the change, will shift to new Southern stock.

Onions, mostly Egyptian and Bermuda, are in better supply and selling a little lower. Old beets, turnips, carrots and parsnips are still in the market at unchanged prices. Native asparagus is in light supply, and prices have held well of late. Rhubarb is down to 1 cent a pound, which is as low a price as most growers can ship for. The supply is ample, but less than doing some recent seasons. Dandelions are done for the season. Hothouse stuff is much depressed by the abundant shipments from the South.

Tomatoes in particular have been hard to dispose of, and cucumbers are lower. Southern peas are plenty and rather poor in quality. Florida sweet corn has arrived and summer squashes are more plenty. Green beans are in oversupply.

Potatoes at New York are in light demand for old stock, with prices steady. New stock is in rather light supply, although 6400 barrels came Wednesday. Sweet potatoes do not seem to be much wanted at present. New onions from Texas arrived Thursday. Asparagus is selling a little higher on account of short supply. Bunch beets and carrots are lower, cucumbers steady, cabbages in demand and higher, string beans lower, squashes plenty, likewise tomatoes.



EXTERIOR VIEW OF COLISEUM, ST. JAMES PARK.

Site of present Museum of Fine Arts. Coliseum built for National Peace Jubilee, held June 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1869.

Hay Fairly Steady.

The markets are mostly in good shape, with supplies light or moderate and prices averaging about as last quoted. There is but little of the best grades left, and bulk of receipts are rather ordinary. Naturally the demand is active for what chaff hay can be had.

The New York market shows a slight decline in prices on account of receipts of over ten thousand tons during last week.

Boston market is steady, with best hay scarce, lower grades tending to advance and straw higher on light supply and moderate demand. Receipts for the past week were 324 cars of hay, fifty-seven cars of which were billed for export, and thirteen of straw. Corresponding week last year the receipts were 463 cars of hay, 346 cars of which were billed for export, and twenty-two cars of straw.

Chicago reports liberal receipts and lower prices. Cincinnati higher. Southern markets firm except for low grades, which are stable at quotations.

The prospect of a short crop this year has caused holders of old hay to become very firm in their views. The drought has prevailed in eastern Canada as well as in the United States, and Canadian farmers who have considerable hay yet to be sold are advancing their price, or waiting.

The following are the highest prices for hay in the markets mentioned: Boston \$20, New York \$23, Jersey City \$22, Philadelphia \$20.50, Brooklyn \$22, Buffalo \$16.50, Pittsburgh \$18.50, Kansas City \$13, Minneapolis \$15.50, Minneapolis prairie \$12.50, Baltimore \$20.50, Chicago \$15.50, Richmond \$19.50, Cincinnati \$18.75, Washington \$19, Montreal \$10, St. Louis \$15.

The demand at this season varies considerably with the weather, being very dull during a warm spell. Under the best weather conditions the market is rather limited, owing to the growing abundance of fresh vegetables and Southern fruit. Oranges have been cheap of late and have competed somewhat with apples.

Prices, however, rule unchanged in Boston market, but has been at times rather hard to obtain full quotations, many lots now being more or less unsound. Some very fine large Missouri Ben Davis were on sale this week at above top quotations. They had been in cold storage. Most lots of Davis now on the market bring less than best Russets. These two varieties hold most of the trade, only a few Baldwins, Spies and Kings remaining.

The New York apple market has been in rather bad shape on account of large supplies for the season and poor demand. Prices were quoted considerably lower, but are now improving. Apparently the storage houses had been cleaning out their stock, but the movement seems to be over. It is said that western New York stock is practically cleaned up with the exception of some twenty to thirty thousand barrels. Gleason is said to be still holding some seven thousand barrels and a few stray cars here and there.

Literature.

For all human beings life holds some roads in common, such as those of joy and sorrow, work and play. Annie Elliot Trumbull's men and women in her latest book seem to have to toll over very rugged places. Even when Mrs. Trumbull leaves her characters they stand not in the way of happiness, but there stretches out ahead of them long paths of stern, uncompromising duty. It is of life that Mrs. Trumbull is writing, but we are a perverse people, and, although we demand real living tales, we desire a happy ending. This novel has no complicated parts, but the types of character have pronounced personalities. There is Ursula Morcroft, the heroine, who has to learn many difficult lessons. That she has fought and struggled gallantly is shown by her own words in the concluding chapter: "There was a time when I felt that I had a right to keep away from what would determine—would injure what I call my character—to get away at all hazards—that I owed it to myself. Since then I have realized that one may owe it to one's self to stay instead of to go—to stay and let one's character deteriorate if it will. That was one of the hardest lessons I had to learn."

When Ursula said the foregoing, she had been through many phases of experience. She was beautiful and rich. She married Morcroft when she should have married Engham, her guardian. When she had been married a while, she awakened to the knowledge that she had had happiness in her hand and let it go from her. Ursula knew that there are other things than love, but "it is just as well for a woman not to marry without that particular sentiment."

"Shall she remain with Morcroft or not?" is Ursula's problem. It takes time, but she decides that it is best for her to remain. There are other interesting characters in "Life's Common Way" besides Ursula, Morcroft and Engham. There is Hutchins Ingledew and his wife Ida. Hutchins is a finer of great power, ruthlessly cruel whenever obstacle stood in his way. Ida Eagle is a woman of narrow views always cool and serene in her eternal righteouslyness. There is the bright, witty, clever "Teddy" Siddons, who married without love because she knows she can never have Engham whom she loves. Her marriage has made her reckless, and one can foresee the divorce court for her eventually. All these people seem to be victims of fate, kismet. Happiness there is none, but much opportunity for duty. Many of the characters do their duty from various incentives, and Mrs. Trumbull's characters perform theirs, because being constituted as they are and the circumstances being as they are, they must. Mrs. Trumbull has narrated her story with delicate touches of wit and humor, and the novel contains artistic bits of description which offset the sustained tension of strong emotions throughout the book. The author does not admit that happiness lies along "Life's Common Way." She makes it a tantalizing, whimsical vision which, because of the stern realities of life, is never realized. [New York: A. S. Barnes & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

The accident restores his reason. He accepts her presence as a matter of course, making no inquiries as to what life has brought to her during all the intervening time. Gilbert Bream arrives and finds that the woman he married is no longer his legal wife. It is an awful thing for this man and woman who have grown into each other's lives and who have found their greatest happiness in each other. But the author has a happy ending in store for the interested reader.

Mr. Whitson has portrayed an admirable character in Gilbert Bream, and a sweet, womanly woman in Barbara. In Roger Timberley there is selfishness personified, and one becomes impatient with Barbara's devotion to such a poor specimen of manhood. There are some strong scenes in the book, and the Western local color is evidently presented by one who knows his ground. Some of the circumstances attending Roger's continued absence are rather improbable, but, on the whole, Mr. Whitson has written an entertaining story of the West. [Boston: Little, Brown & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

Stage life from the actor's or actress's standpoint is always interesting when the information comes from one conversant with the subject. John D. Barry in "A Daughter of Thespis" portrays the lives of two girls who are making their living on the stage. They have characters widely different. Evelyn Johnson is rather Puritanical in her views, and is the quiet, unassuming heroine of the book, while Madge Guernsey is quick-witted, vivacious and talkative. In the summer vacation, spent at Cohasset, Evelyn makes the acquaintance of a Mr. and Mrs. Webb, the former a one-time writer of books, given to self-analysis, but an interesting character withal. The theatrical season opens again and the two actresses live together in a flat in New York. About this time a new character is introduced, a Mr. Thayer, a writer of plays in which the two girls appear. He has not in the past held a very exalted opinion of stage folk, but he changes his opinions after he becomes acquainted better with Evelyn and Madge. He is a character with a strong personality and he becomes an ardent admirer of Evelyn. His rival for her hand and heart is Mr. Webb, now a widower. The love interest is well sustained, especially the portions devoted to irresistible Madge and her worshippers.

The great charm of the book, however, lies in the faithful depicting of the ins and outs of theatrical life, all of which is told in a leisurely manner from first-hand knowledge. It is not that there are no novels in which the stage has a part, for we are frequently given unrealistic glimpses behind-the-curtain scenes. Mr. Barry, however, has been disinterested and precise in his portrayal of the real men and women who go to make up the rank and file of actors and actresses. He gives not alone the glamour which the tragedian sees from the "front" of the house, and which he reads with as much avidity, but he has not omitted to enumerate the everyday routine of stage folk, giving the little-known side of their professional lives.

For this reason the book possesses a charm which is seldom to be found in novels dealing with the theatre. The book is a wholesome one, too, and whatever it may lack in original plot construction is made up in the real color of the green room. [Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

Among the recently issued volumes in the authoritative "American Sportsman's Library" is "The Water-Fowl Family," prepared by Leonard C. Sanford, T. S. Van Dyke and L. B. Bishop. "An almost irresistible desire," writes Mr. Sanford in the opening chapter, "comes over most men at times to change the routine of civilized life for the quiet and solitude of the wild. Forest, field, waters, all offer their inducements, in many instances combining with hardships and fatigue; and yet to him who loves it, actual suffering often adds to the satisfaction of reward, doubly pleasing as the result of endurance and patience. With a large number of these individuals to whom the wild and all that goes with it is dear, the wild duck brings up the pleasantest recollections and anticipations. The ponds and lakes of the North and the prairie sloughs come before him, where they nested and

spent the summer, restless at the time of approaching fall for the Southern migration. He remembers drifting down the river with a gentle current, amid October foliage, to where alders and willows lined the bank and darkened the water; where he saw the ripple that betrayed the presence of the wild duck before they took wing with frightened splashing." In an attractive manner Mr. Sanford proceeds to draw a picture of scenes familiar to the sportsman. At the same time, the methods by which wild fowl are hunted are delineated in a general way. The writer maintains that a method which represents fairness and skill is the one "which consists in waiting for the birds along the line of flight, and can be practiced whenever the flocks take any particular course on land." In considering the subject of duck shooting, Mr. Sanford gives a concise synopsis of the breed and peculiar habits of each species of fowl. Illustrations assist in making the peculiarities of each breed of fowl clearly defined.

Mr. Van Dyke, who has collaborated with several other writers of books for "The Sportsman's Library," in this volume confines himself to the subject, "The Water-Fowl of the Pacific Coast." Mr. Van Dyke's style is less scholarly than Mr. Sanford's, and by way of contrast adds to the interest of the book. One feels as if the latter was instructing the reader, while the former seems to take one into his confidence and talk on the subject in a most friendly manner. The authors of the book impress upon the reader the great natural beauty of the game birds amid their natural surroundings. There is much admirable word-painting in the book of woodland waters, and much information upon the subject of duck shooting and the nature and habits of water fowl. At the end there are "diagnoses of families and genera," which are of valuable assistance to every sportsman in condensing and retaining in his mind the necessary technical knowledge.

The book is entertaining without being dry, even to the reader who is not a confirmed sportsman. It is an exceedingly creditable addition to the new library which promises to become the American Badminton. [New York: Macmillan & Co. Price, \$2.50.]

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Gems of Thought.

.... The best and truest gift we can give to others is not mere present gratification, but strength, courage and cheer, that they may rise into nobler, worthier life, and go on continually with new energy and hope. It may be easier, when you find your need through his own influence, to help him into a position in which he will learn to earn his own bread. It may be easier, but after you have provided for his necessities for a time, short or long, you leave him where you found him, in poverty, with no power than before to care for himself. But if you have ignored his plea for alms, and instead have taught him to work, and inspired him to it, you have lifted him above the near need, asking charity, and have set his feet in the path toward manhood.—Selected.

.... I have often wondered how it is that even man loves himself more than the rest of men, yet sets his value on his own opinion of himself, on the opinion of others. If even a god-like teacher should present himself to a man and bid him to think of nothing and do nothing which he would not express as soon as he received it, he could not endure it even for a day. So much more respect have we to what our neighbors shall think of us than to what we shall think of ourselves.—Marcus Aurelius.

.... My heart is fixed firm and stable in the belief that ultimately the sunshine and summer, the flowers and the azure sky, shall become, as were, interwoven into man's existence. He shall take from all their beauty and enjoy their glory.—Richard Jeffries.

.... We would be wise if we so adjusted our relations with others that all our days we should be under the sway of the good, the worthy, the peaceful, and the heavenly. Then, as their friends, we should seek ever to bring into the lives of others only the highest, the most uplifting and inspiring of the most wholesome and enriching influences.

.... Go with mean people, and you think life is mean. Then read "Plutarch," and the world is a proud place, peopled with men of positive quantity, with heroes and demigods standing around us. Our sympathy is never deep unless founded on our own feelings. We pity, but we do not enter into the grief which we have never felt.—L. E. Landau.

.... Men and women in the thick of life do not go helpless when there is such help at hand; when the Holy Spirit is waiting to show you Christ and to give you in him the profoundness of faith and delightfulness of duty.—Phillips Brooks :

.... Magnanimity is sufficiently defined by its name; yet may we say of it that it is the good sense of pride, and the noblest way of acquiring applause.—Rochefoucauld.

.... The last thing for one in bereavement, seeking comfort, is to be idle. Then the grief feeds upon the life itself, and wastes and wears it out. But when in our sorrow we turn away from self to ministries of love for others, our hearts find comfort. Thus, and thus only, can we learn to live without one who has been everything to us in the past.—J. R. Miller.

.... Each citizen holds his time, his trouble, his money, his life always ready at the hint of his country. The useful citizen is a mighty, uprehted hero; but we are not going to be a country very long unless such heroism is developed.—Charles Lowell.

.... Each human life is a whole orchestra in itself. But it is not always in tune, and before it can begin to make sweet music its many chords must be all joined together into accord. This is the work of spiritual culture. It is achieved only by the submission of the whole life to God. This is the work which divine grace sets itself to do in us. If we would have this result achieved we must sweeten and earnestly yield ourselves to God that He may bring us into tune with His own

help we can give to gratification, but that they may rise and go on continually if it may be easier, round his own indoor supply wants, on which he will be more than ever, for his necessities leave him just poverty, with no means for himself. But if he aims, and, instead, inspired him to do the near need of his feet in the path

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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

An original package by any other name would doubtless taste quite as pleasant!

It begins to look as if France had got enough of auto racing. And yet the smash was inevitable.

How soon we wonder shall we read the article on "How to Exercise when Going Up Stairs in an Elevator?"

The weather of the past week has been such that one could read with perfect equanimity of the burning of a big ice plant.

It is rather interesting to note in the pages of a sober contemporary the advertisement of a gentleman who sells tips on horse racing.

Emerson himself, one cannot help feeling, would have approved not only the spirit but the manner in which Boston celebrated his centenary.

Even the great majority who appear to feel no appreciable sorrow at the passing of the old Museum will miss the familiar nightly illumination.

Tree experts grow up on the Common almost as numerously as the trees, but they seem, as a rule, to be much better satisfied with the way things are taken care of.

With all respect to the New York Commercial Advertiser its critical analysis of Emerson leads to the natural query: Who is this New York Commercial Advertiser, anyway?

Youth is distinctly taking to melody as a means of self-expression, but we cannot fail to note the healthful symptom that the Sam schoolboy's band has an evident tendency from drums.

Out Brockton way people who like to go into the woods on Sundays to enjoy the intoxication of nature will sympathize with Judge Kelley's efforts to dishearten those who take to the woods for wilder forms of intoxication.

Are we satisfied with one-tenth of the world's commerce? A good many observers evidently feel that we ought to be and even set ourselves earnestly and humbly to getting an equal share of the world's artistic appreciation.

The recent scientific conclusion that a hot stove will weigh less than a cold one will be of little comfort to furniture movers. It may, however, possibly account for the number of persons who set their homes on fire by moving the kerosene stove without putting it out.

Makers of farm implements have petitioned the President for aid against thirty-three trusts and combines, which they claim have been advancing price of materials until the small concerns can no longer face the music. But, however lively the tune they dance to, it is the farmer, as usual, who really pays the piper.

The proposed new cider law in Massachusetts has a weak point, in that the wording exempts farmers who make cider and wine from the three per cent alcohol limit. It is plainly unfair to no-license towns that the special permission should be given farmers to sell intoxicating liquors disguised under the name of cider or wine.

If the chief of the weather bureau can't make the weather, he at least gives proof of good intentions by inventing a device for mitigating a current hot spell by expeditiously cooling the air needed for one's individual consumption. Let us all hope that the "nevo" will work and won't cost any more than an electric fan.

If the present attitude of the public continues toward the inebriated traveler on the Saturday-night cars, conductors will be able to begin the week with more philosophy than has usually been left in their possession. Saturday night is not ordinarily the happiest in the week either for the conductors or for other sober persons who have to ride in the cars.

The Public Library has not decided to follow the example of some of the downtown restaurants and display signs declaring that the management is not responsible for overcoats, hats or umbrellas left by the owners just where they offer temptation to an occasional sneak thief. Considering the carelessness of the public, the aggregate loss is a surprisingly small one from one year to another.

Drought and frost are a serious combination for market gardeners and fruit growers. Those who have had to replant a third time since this week's frost can hardly be expected to take a rosy view of the climate. At this rate, between freezing and drying there will be little left to grow in some gardens. The compensation for those who succeed in raising much of anything will be found in higher prices for vegetables and probably for fruit.

The cattle situation in New England is still more hopeful, no cases of the epidemic having been found for about a month past. Of course there is still the possibility that cases have been overlooked or concealed, but the reinspection, farm to farm, makes such chances unlikely. Boston officials of the United States bureau are as yet unable to fix a positive date for quarantine removal, but the prospect of early relief grows brighter every day that passes without unfavorable news from the inspectors.

Our German farmer visitors seem greatly pleased with what they see in this country. They declare that the Fatherland can teach us but little in the line of practical agriculture. Rumor asserts that some of them are already laying plans to buy farming property in the United States. It would be an amusing, but quite natural result of the Kaiser's enterprise "to uplift German agriculture," if it should be mainly apparent in sending over here still more numerous shiploads of enterprising, ambitious German farmers.

The State-aided highways of Massachusetts and Connecticut have been improved with the district idea of making trunk lines of good roads. Thus in Connecticut are fourteen main lines of 1400 miles nearly completed and touching a majority of the towns. There is a 120-mile line along the old "Boston turnpike," near the Sound

shore, and fourteen trunk lines running north across the State and connecting in some instances with similar improved roads in Massachusetts. Thus is suggested the probability of national trunk lines of good roads, a prospect which grows brighter with the increasing interest in the plan project for national aid and supervision.

Foreign trading interests are reported much disturbed on finding that even if Congress has adjourned, Uncle Sam has in his coat sleeve weapons for commercial defense. The anti-adulteration clause, hidden away in the agricultural appropriation bill, appears to afford a convenient means of retaliating on Germany for the vexing restrictions on American provisions, fruit and other leading articles of export. The United States Agricultural Department finds that many German wines are adulterated before shipment to this country, and thus a chance is afforded to show German merchants how very troublesome a restrictive law may become when used to keep away merchandise from other countries. It is sometimes good for the commercial doctors to taste a sample of their own medicine.

Building up the Farm.
The practice of feeding grains and other crops on the farm and shipping the finished product, whether it be beef, mutton or hog meat, or butter or cheese, is one which Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has urged at various times as absolutely necessary to the upbuilding of American agriculture.

"It is time, and it has been time for some time," said Secretary Wilson, in speaking of the "rundown" farm, "that our farmers who are selling stock feed off the farm and shipping it abroad, should get it into their heads that it will pay them better to keep it at home and feed it. Every one will admit the wisdom of this, and yet thousands of our farmers continue the practice of selling everything they raise and do not think any better plan. But we must keep the fertility in our farm lands if we want to remain agriculturally supreme."

"Instead of these entire areas are getting poorer and poorer. Keep the farm crops on the farm and ship the meat and the butter, and milk and cheese. That is the thing to do. Now, as one instance, American cheese and butter ought to go abroad, and we have had men out trying to find a good market for it in foreign countries. Our farmers can make the best and cheapest butter and cheese of any country in the world, but what have our agents found? Why, in the matter of dairy products one class of American farmers is furnishing the very weakest to enable foreigners to defeat other American farmers, with distinct loss to both classes of American farmers. We find European markets supplied by Danish butter and cheese. Yet, as I have often said, the Danes could not export a single cheese, and in which the reproductive power is sufficient to renew the stand as the trees now stand; are cut away. This includes the spruce forests in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

Prosperous Women Farmers.
New instances of women successful in agricultural pursuits were mentioned in a recent address before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society by Miss Mary E. Cutler, who is herself a very successful farmer and fruit grower of Middlesex County, Mass.

"In these progressive times the handle of the agricultural tool is coming to know the grasp of the woman's hand almost as well as the needle or the broom, and many women are making reputations as farmers of progress. Among the agriculturists are wives, widows and maidens; women who have begun with small means, women of wealth who have entered the ranks for the pleasure they could get out of it or for philanthropic purposes. One and all are bright, intelligent women, and the large majority are educated and cultured. Some are in partnership with men, others own and manage farms for themselves, while many manage farms for other people. They are found in the largest numbers in Minnesota, South Dakota, Nevada, Arizona and Wyoming. Some are cultivating thousands of acres, using the steam engine as a plowman. The majority conduct farms of more than a hundred acres, while a few are contented with a single acre, depending on the spade and hoe.

Our Future Grain Markets.
Wheat growers of the Northwest are tired of sending grain a four month's trip around Cape Horn and twice across the equator to reach the overloaded markets of Europe. They have been looking hopefully of late toward the Orient, and the chances for an outlet in that direction are very bright. Mr. Hill's new steamers of enormous freight-carrying power, and operating in connection with railroads from the wheat centers, will provide ample transportation facilities at lower rates. According to Mr. Hill the Oriental grain trade naturally belongs to the United States and can be vastly increased.

"If only one-third of the people of the world are wheat eaters and the other two-thirds live on rice or maize or rye," said he, in a recent interview, "we must find our markets with people who are not so consumers of our crop. I believe that wherever wheat flour has been introduced to any race, with the single exception of the black race, they are ready to consume it from that time on. The Asiatic rice eaters are as fond of flour as the white race and as ready to eat it, if they can get it at a fair price."

"The question may arise, How can people who work for wages of from ten to fifteen cents a day, and have lived for centuries on such wages, buy flour which must be carried across the Pacific Ocean? If they did buy flour, even at the rate of one bushel per capita, we in this country would have to go to eating corn porridge. We simply could not sell it to them."

"If we could sell them one bushel per capita we would take 450,000,000 bushels to supply China and Japan alone, to say nothing of the Straits Settlements and other countries having large populations."

"In the north and west parts of China there is an excellent farming country, where corn and wheat can be raised, but the products are so far from the dense population on the seacoast that they cannot be carried there. We may perhaps fear that Russia, with the Siberian railway completed, may enter into competition with us for the Asiatic flour or wheat trade. The transportation question settles that."

"The average rate on the Russian State railroads is 1.8 cents per ton per mile. If the actual cost of operation amounted to but two-thirds of this figure—1.2 cents per ton per mile—that rate, applied to the distance from that part of Siberia where the wheat is grown, would give a transportation charge of \$4.20 per barrel on flour, while it should be carried from our Pacific ports to Yokohama, Nagasaki, Kobe, Shanghai and Hong Kong for twenty-five cents a hundred lbs. a ton, fifty cents a barrel."

"Russia is not in a position to compete with us at all even if the wheat and flour were carried for the naked cost of its transportation to the Government. What applies in this respect to our wheat applies to cotton from the South and to every other article we export, even to iron and steel."

on the southeast slope, and peach orchards and later crops on the northwest. The branches that I am most interested and engaged in are flowers, vegetables and fruits. Peach orchards occupy a large corner of my farm, and have been a source of profit. When the trees are young, vegetables and small fruits can be grown by the rows, thus using all the available land. Apples, pears, plums and small fruits I also grow for profit. If I can get a good living in sterile New England, and the soil on my farm is no better than that of thousands of others in Massachusetts, it is not an encouragement for those who live in the more fertile soil, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, and from the Golden Gate to the Hudson, to engage in this same honorable occupation."

Her degree of success is certainly not overstated by Miss Cutler. In the town where she lives she is considered one of the most successful and competent business farmers in the place. Her income from crops sold is perhaps larger than that of any one else in town. The general outdoor work and the marketing are left to a very competent foreman, but the owner makes the plans, looks closely after details, and sometimes lends a hand at the lighter and more agreeable work, having helped to perform much of the housework. Miss Cutler is a prominent Grange worker, and finds some spare time to indulge in a musical and literary taste. It should be stated that her farm, a fairly good one, was inherited from her father, thus furnishing a start somewhat in the direction which she has followed, but the value and productive power of the place has been very greatly developed and increased, especially in the direction of fruit, flowers and vegetables.

The New Year Book.

The annual official publication of the Department of Agriculture, known as the Year Book, will be printed about June 15. Those who wish copies should apply to the congressman from their own district. The address of the congressman wanted will be given an application to the Department of State at Washington.

James W. Abbott, special agent for the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast division in a special report, makes a review of the use of mineral oil in road improvement, which he says has been a great success in California. Mr. Abbott thinks that oil can be used to advantage at any place where the roads become very dry and dusty, and where water can be kept out of their foundations in the winter, so that they will remain firm and not give way beneath the oiled surface in the spring. The reliance must, he says, be upon oil with an asphalt base. William L. Hall in discussing the practicability of forest planting in the United States, says forest planting is not practicable in those regions which are as yet well timbered, and in which the reproductive power is sufficient to renew the stand as the trees now stand; are cut away. This includes the spruce forests in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

W. H. Beal of the office of experiment stations has an article in which he says: "Agricultural experiment stations are now in operation in every State and Territory of the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico, and steps have been taken to establish agencies in the Philippines. There are sixty stations, employing nearly one thousand trained scientific and practical men in their work. During the fourteen years of their existence as a national enterprise there has been expended in their maintenance about \$14,000,000, or about \$10,000,000 came from the national treasury and about \$4,000,000 from State sources."

In an article on irrigation, Edward A. Beals of the Weather Bureau says that there are more than seven million acres of irrigated land in the United States. The total cost of the irrigation systems of the United States is \$64,289,601, and the value of the irrigated crops for the single year of 1899 was \$84,433,438, or thirty per cent greater than the cost of the plants. The number of irrigators was 102,819, which gives nearly seventy-one acres to the farm.

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Aislike for Cattle and Bees.

When my apiaries numbered some six hundred colonies I tried to induce farmers in my vicinity to sow aislike. For a long time none would do so, all believing I had "an ax to grind" and that my arguments were a sharp trick to secure a lot of forage, free of expense, for my bees.

At length some of my friends sowed a few acres. One party, Captain C. of Bradford, sowed aislike and timothy mixed in equal parts. When the hay from this field was stored it was put in the middle of a mow and ordinary hay made the top layer. During the winter he observed a sudden gain in the quantity of milk he was producing, and asked his man if he had been increasing the grain ration. Being told no, he became curious to learn the cause of such a noticeable increase of milk. Examination of the hay disclosed the fact that they had just commenced feeding the aislike and timothy.

I brought up this topic in several beekeepers' conventions and in conversation with one of the most prominent Vermont beekeepers was told that he had experienced the same reluctance on the part of farmers to sow aislike. Mr. Manum commanded to furnish the seed to farmers at his own expense, and after a few years declined to supply it any longer. Then the farmers declared they would sow no more aislike for his bees to feed on, to which he rejoined that if they did not know when they had a good thing they need not plant aislike. The farmers, having proved it to be one of the very best feeds for their dairies, decided they could not afford to do without it, and aislike fields continued to abound in that particular section.

Bees assist in the complete fertilization of the blossoms, so insuring a full crop of seed. And on this point it is astonishing how much ignorance prevails. Many do not seem to understand how necessary are insects, and bees particularly, for this work of fertilizing blossoms.

In the north and west parts of China there is an excellent farming country, where corn and wheat can be raised, but the products are so far from the dense population on the seacoast that they cannot be carried there. We may perhaps fear that Russia, with the Siberian railway completed, may enter into competition with us for the Asiatic flour or wheat trade. The transportation question settles that.

The average rate on the Russian State railroads is 1.8 cents per ton per mile. If the actual cost of operation amounted to but two-thirds of this figure—1.2 cents per ton per mile—that rate, applied to the distance from that part of Siberia where the wheat is grown, would give a transportation charge of \$4.20 per barrel on flour, while it should be carried from our Pacific ports to Yokohama, Nagasaki, Kobe, Shanghai and Hong Kong for twenty-five cents a hundred lbs. a ton, fifty cents a barrel.

"Russia is not in a position to compete with us at all even if the wheat and flour were carried for the naked cost of its transportation to the Government. What applies in this respect to our wheat applies to cotton from the South and to every other article we export, even to iron and steel."

"If we could sell them one bushel per capita we would take 450,000,000 bushels to supply China and Japan alone, to say nothing of the Straits Settlements and other countries having large populations."

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in clean bushel
of sort and grower.
\$1 each, and the
one hundred more
in boxes selling
barrels they brought
was perfect fruit.
You can do this in
any way with far better
resulted at once should
go into cold storage.
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them the strong sides
of our business. Don't
we paid you a visit,
and orcharding are
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fairly worth \$25.

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survance of our most
the young shoots are
destructive grub, or
roll themselves up
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appearance. Hand
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the bushes must be
killed. A good one
a handful of quassia
of water for about
should then be strained
ounce or two of soft
this dissolved, add
a gallon. Use it
an hour after
through syringing

Cleaners.

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them picking up
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it to the field and
not do charge me
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ments that remain to a
C. MANSON.

Horse Wagon.

loads of hay right
of the barn which are
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then one has a ton of
much work to roll
on the scaffold at
the horse draws it up
not have mine
I could have an
make my wagons and
them, and draw them
but; unloading the
S. BLAISDELL.

other than fiction. The
on to be chased into
well ahead of the
and his pictorial rep
same episode. The
probably did not regard
does anybody else
and his editor.

Fat Hogs.

Market off 1c, with 6½¢ for Western, and
local hogs hands at 70c, 71½c, d, w.

Sheep House.

Some fluctuation in prices both on sheep and
also lambs. The sheep market lower by 1½c,
and lambs higher by 1c on best grades. Market
price on Western sheep placed here at \$2.80±5.50
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Scarcely any Northern arrive yet.

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Between one and two tons at 12½c, as to
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New Hampshire—W. F. Wallace, 60; J. B.
Gordon, 6; Ed. Sargent, 27; G. S. Peasey, 14; T.
Shay, 28; E. F. Adden, 85; A. F. Jones & Co.,
122.
Vermont—W. A. Ricker, 496; B. F. Ricker, 127;
F. Atwood, 148; A. Williamson, 86; R. Ricker,
24; N. Woodward, 162; F. C. Combs, 83; J.
Henry, 51.
Massachusetts—J. S. Henry, 45; O. H. Forbush,
1; R. Connors, 19; scattering, 46; L. Stetson, 32; F.
Crane, 5; J. Freeman, 5; A. Wheeler, 4; H. A.
Gilmore, 14.
New York—W. Smith, 29; J. & D. A. White,
140.

Brighton Cattle Market.

Stock at yards: 301 cattle, 18,000 hogs, 365
calves, 230 houses. From West, 120 cattle, 17,800
hogs, 230 houses. Maine, 31 cattle, 9,500 hogs,
51 calves. Vermont, 2 cattle, 9 hogs, 51 calves.
Massachusetts, 1 cattle, 122 hogs, 51 calves.
New York, 140 cattle.

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on cattle, and if dealers obtained last week's
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Lewis, 2, 930 lbs., at 3c. R. Connors, 2 cows,
15 lbs., at 2½c; 3 cows, av. 1,000 lbs., at 3c. J. S.
Henry, 1 slim cow, 930 lbs., at 3c. H. A. Gilmore,
cows, 900 lbs., at 3½c; 2, of 850 lbs., at 3c; 5, of 725
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Broilers, 3 to 3½ lbs. to pair, p. lb. 28½/30
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Ducks 10/12
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Pigeons, same, choice, p. doz. 1/12/20
Pigeons, same, to good, p. doz. 1/10/15

to be reliable,
at any price.
the only test of
for our special
able to save
are the largest

hayer Co.
BOSTON.

The Markets.

BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

ARRIVALS OF LIVE STOCK AT WATERTOWN
FAND BRIGHTON.

For the week ending June 3, 1903.

Prices on Northern Cattle.

BEEF—Per hundred pounds on total weight of
hide, tallow and meat, extra, \$4.00±5.50 first
quality, \$5.00±6.50 second; quality, \$4.50±5.50;

third quality, \$4.00±4.25; a few choice single pigs,
\$6.75±7.25; 100 lbs. of pork, 100 lbs. of bulls, etc.,
\$3.00±3.50. Western steers, 4.25±5.75.

PIG HOGS—Per pound, live, weight, 3½c; extra,
4½c; sheep and lamb per cwt., in lots, \$3.00
±3.25; lambs, 4½c±5c.

V.EAL CALVES—4½c p. lb.

HIDES—Brighton—7½c p. lb.; country lots, 6c.

CALF SKINS—13c p. lb.; dairy skins, 40±60c.

TALLOW—Brighton, 5½c p. lb.; country lots,
4½c.

PELTS—50c±1.25.

Cattle, Sheep. Cattle, Sheep.

Maine—O. H. Forbush, 17
At Brighton 8
J. V. Henry, 15 5
W. L. Cross 5
D. McIntire 4
W. Gleason 7
New Hampshire—F. Crane, 11
At Watertown 10
W. F. Wallace, 32 20
A. N. E. D. M. & Wool Co. 5
W. A. Ricker 2
At Watertown 32
J. S. Henry 27

Western—J. Kelley, 24
S. S. Learned, 64
Sturtevant & Haley, 48
At Watertown 2

A. N. E. D. M. & Wool Co. 4200

New York—O. H. Forbush, 100

G. S. Peavey 8

E. F. Adden 6

Vermont—J. Gould, 10

J. B. Gordon, 10

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Live Stock Experts.

States cattle on the English market rule lower
somewhat than last week, as d. w., p. lb., at
11½c, and States sheep at 12½c, 13c, t.
These sales are reported at Liverpool and
London, and the latter are the only ones for
11,000 head of cattle shipped from Montreal alone.
A still further decline is possible. The English
market on live cattle is very full, almost to a
glut.

Horse Breeding.

A flourishing trade throughout the week for
Western and nearby horses, some of which came
from Maine for family use. Prices continue to
rule strong for all classes, on sale. At Moses
Colman & Son's sale stable, a good brisk trade,
with sales for \$2,000. H. S. Harlan's sale stable, sold
200,000 lbs. of Western, mostly draft, at \$175±200;
nearby horses, \$60±100. At L. H. Brockway's
sale stable, 3 cars of Western were sold from
Ohio, Chicago and Buffalo, at \$105±120. At Welch
& Hall Company's sale stable, a good week's sale
of all descriptions, from \$75±300.

Union Yards, Watertown.

Tuesday—Arrivals via F. R. & Southern
division of B. & M. for the week were not heavy
in beef cattle, except the Western, which is to
be killed and sent to market for sale by
butchers. As far as could be learned, beef
cattle were in nearly the same position as last
week, but was not certain whether the flood out
at Kansas City would affect prices, but later in
the week more certain news. O. H. Forbush sold
2 steers, of 3100 lbs., at 5c. J. A. Hathaway, 40
Western steers, 5c; 30 cattle, at 5½c; 30, of 1400
pounds, at 4c; 100, of 1350 lbs., at 4c; 50, of
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Pigeons, same, to good, p. doz. 1/10/15

to be reliable,
at any price.
the only test of
for our special
able to save
are the largest

hayer Co.
BOSTON.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, SATURDAY, JUNE 6 1903

Squabs, p. doz. 2½/3
Weaner flocks or flocks 1½/2
Broilers, common to choice 12½/14
Old cocks 12½/14
Receipts June 2, were 314 packages.

Our Homes.

The Workbox.

KNITTED GOLF GLOVE.

Use 2 skeins of three-thread Saxony, 4 steel knitting needles No. 16. Cast on 65 stitches, 3 plain, purl 3, alternately till you have finished 25 rows.

Right-hand Glove—The palm facing the knitter and the thumb on the left-hand side. Work 13 rounds plain, on the 14th round begin to increase for the thumb, by knitting the first stitch plain, and knitting 1 plain and purling 1 in next stitch. Knit 27 stitches plain, 3 plain, purl 3, alternately for rest of round.

15th round.—Like 14th round.

16th round.—Thirty-one plain, 3 plain, plain, 3, alternately rest of round.

17th round.—One plain and increase 1 in next stitch. Knit 2 plain, purl 3, 3 plain, alternately rest of round. (This reverses the pattern, thus forming a small block.) Continue knitting in this way until you have increased 27 stitches, being careful to reverse the pattern, or block, every 3 rounds, making 93 stitches on the needle. Thread a needle with coarse cotton, pass it through the 27 stitches knitted for the thumb. Tie the cotton. Continue to work in the round also pattern, for 36 rounds.

First Finger—Six plain, take a needle and cotton and pass it through all the stitches on the hand except the last 13 stitches. Now use a third needle. Cast on 4 stitches; this is for the inside of finger. Divide the stitches for the fingers equally on 3 needles. Continue to knit plain in the round for 30 rounds, then decrease by knitting 2 of the inside stitches together. Knit 8 rounds plain, then decrease by knitting 2 of the inside stitches together. Knit 6 rounds plain, narrow, and then knit 3 all around until you have 8 stitches remaining on the needle, draw the wool through the 8 stitches, draw together, fasten the wool firmly on the wrong side.

Second Finger—Put the next 7 stitches from the inside of the hand, on needle. Cast 4 stitches on another needle, then take the last 8 stitches off the cotton on to a needle. Now pick up the 4 stitches cast on for the first finger, and work as before, making finger 6 rounds longer, previous to beginning to decrease.

Third Finger—Take 7 stitches from inside of hand, cast on 4, take the last 7 stitches off thread, pick the 4 stitches from inside of second finger, and knit as directed for the first finger, making 3 rounds more before beginning the decrease.

Fourth Finger—Take all the stitches remaining on the thread, and pick up the 4 stitches from inside of third finger. Knit 36 rounds, decrease as before and finish the thumb.

Eva M. Niles.

Canned Asparagus.

Wash the asparagus thoroughly, then cut the stalks to fit into a quart jar, lengthwise. Place them in the jars, heads up, filling each jar as full as you can and still allow for the stalks coming out whole, when cooked. Place the jar under cold, running water for five or ten minutes or until the next jar is ready. Adjust the rubber—a new one, always—and lay on the cover. Set the jars into a steamer or a large kettle with trivets to raise the jars from the bottom (a wash boiler with a rack of sticks will answer the purpose very well) and have enough lukewarm water in the kettle to come half way up to the tops of the jars. Cover the kettle, heat gradually to the boiling point and allow the water to boil 1½ hours. Now remove one jar at a time, fasten and place to cool. When ready to use the asparagus, open the jar, add one-half teaspoonful of salt, place as before in the kettle of lukewarm water and heat to boiling. Drain off the water, draw out the asparagus carefully and serve on slices of buttered toast. For success in canning absolute cleanliness of hands, jars and vegetable is essential, and if available, pure spring water should be used. String beans may be prepared in the same way.—Good Housekeeping.

Mind Culture for the Looks.

Mind culture is now being used as a means of enlivening and beautifying the countenance. A specialist frequently consulted in cases of obesity says that women whom he has induced to take up a course of study and stick to it systematically for a couple of hours each day have been greatly benefited. And he maintains also that giving the mind work to do improves an ugly or characterless countenance and renders a beautiful face doubly charming.

"Culture as a Practical Help to Good Looks" is the subject of a lecture that a young drawing-room entertainer, a college woman, has made popular lately. And she is so convinced herself of the truth of the argument that she has infected her hearers with belief in it.

One circle of intimates, two of whom are getting stouter than is good for their peace of mind, have tackled German as a pursuit affording work enough to suit the purpose.

"Art, literature, music, any study that will evoke and hold the interest and that is followed regularly cannot but influence the facial expression," said a preacher of the new cult. "Even enforced study will have a modifying, refining effect, although not of course to the same degree as if it were pursued with enthusiasm."

"The candidate for honors in this mental-physical culture should discover the study or pursuit that answers best to her natural taste and then follow it sedulously. No better proof of the mind's ability to influence the body's appearance is needed than the fact that you can tell a person engaged exclusively in mental pursuits the minute you see him. The school teacher, the minister, the professor, the scientist, can all be told by the face rather than the manner of dress."

Just a second, please—

To tell YOU that

Painkiller
(Perry Davis)

is an infallible cure for Cramps, Colic and All Stomach Complaints.

For 25c.—a large bottle

"Just so, you can tell the person who is occupied, voluntarily or involuntarily, with commonplace mechanical things that make little demand on the thinking faculties. The habit of thought will affect not only the countenance but the person's walk and carriage."

"One reason why the bright, interesting-looking schoolgirl so often develops or rather retrogrades into the lumpish, stolid-appearing young matron is that with the termination of school days and compulsory life she has ceased to exert her mind. The mental faculties lying dormant, the body takes the cue and exhibits a similar attitude of inertness and unlikeness.

"On the contrary, over-anxious students and care-worn people are nearly always thin, which is only an extreme of the principle that the mind's exertions overweight the body. A judicious exercise of the thought faculties and regular mental application to some interesting subject will prevent over abundance of flesh in the person of fleathly. It will also supply the necessary interest and self-forgetfulness that will prevent the person of thin, nervous physique from getting thinner and more nervous."

"With the cultivation of the mind the face gains additional charm and more subtle play of expression."—N. Y. Sun.

Beautifying a City House.

There are so many pretty ways of beautifying a country house with the assistance of nature that it is odd that in the summer, when everything grows and blooms without trouble, out flowers are generally only used as decorations. It is very natural to feel that the window plants that have done their best all winter should need outdoor recuperation and rest, but seedlings would be as happy in a sunny, open window as in the open, and ferns and shade-loving plants should flourish finely. In a New York house, last season, a woman who stayed with her busy husband in town six days out of the seven tried the experiment of indoor summer gardening most successfully, and although outside the house the streets bore the dreary aspect of a midsummer city, indoors everything was made lovely by growing flowers and foliage plants. The fireplaces were filled by logs of wood hollowed out to form troughs, and in these were planted ferns of every description, which thrived beautifully in the open, shady chimneys. The windows all had boxes filled with annuals, which bloomed contentedly in their narrow quarters. In one sunny corner the indoor gardener had carried out the pretty conceit of a floral screen. It was a frame covered with large mesh wire screening, and on this she had trained flowering vines, which grew in a box attached to the bottom of each panel, one of which was covered with trailing nasturtium, another with white clematis and the third with passion flowers; all of these she coaxed into bloom successfully. In addition, she had stands for pots wherever light and air were attainable. These she used for massing color effects with the most happy results. In a country house sunflower border culture would be still easier, and it would certainly add greatly to the beauty of an interior.

Suggestions About Swimming.

The following suggestions to boys and girls are from an instructor in the art of swimming: Never bathe alone if you can avoid it. If you get the cramp, do not fight the water aimlessly. Try to throw yourself on your back to float, kicking out vigorously, as cramp may often be checked in this fashion, and call for assistance. If you go to the aid of any one attacked by cramp, keep clear of them and do not let them clutch you. Assist them either by towing them by the hair or by pushing them in front of you, if possible.

Be careful not to swim out to sea without remembering that you will have as far to swim back. Girls should never bathe in a dress of material which, when wet, will cling round the limbs! Dry yourself thoroughly after bathing, dress quickly and take a short, brisk walk to restore perfect circulation. When you get home, bathe the face and hands in soft water to prevent chapping.

Those who cannot swim should remember that floating is essential to the health of the head back, to fill the chest full of air and to have the legs and feet close together and under complete control. Extending the arms straight out on a level with the shoulders, palms up, is a good plan also. To teach swimming or floating, a spot where the water shelves gradually should be chosen, and the friend assisting should stand about waist deep beside the learner with a hand placed firmly beneath the pupil's spine to afford rather moral than actually physical support.

When the art of floating has been acquired, you can easily learn to swim with a little instruction from a friend who can swim, remembering to keep the head and chin well up, and to take long, even—not irregular or hurried-strokes.

Real Old-Fashioned Garden and Its Arrangement.

"I wish you could tell me," said a young man and a woman, "just what people mean when they talk of the old-fashioned garden and flowers of long ago. I have the fancy to turn one end of my little place into a regular grandmother's garden, but when I get a floral catalogue, and consider what I must plant, I feel completely puzzled."

"I have nearly forgotten myself," answered her friend, "having given myself attention entirely to more modern ideals—Italian terraces, English parterres, etc.—but I will try to help you. Let me see," she continued. "I think the best way would be for me to recall my childhood, when I played in my own grandmother's garden, and learned from her how to know flowers and love them. The memory brings back to me a long-bred walk, bordered with boxes, leading straight from a many-windowed, many-columned white Colonial house, set somewhat back from the village street, to what we called the front gate. The broad space in front of the house, consisting of about half an acre of land, we called the 'front yard.' Part of this was a lawn with stately elms growing near the house. The garden was further on, and concealed by the fence, which, however, did not hide its beauty from the passerby, for in those days people were quite willing that the former should enjoy the sight and fragrance of their well-kept flower beds. On either side of the box-bordered walk was a bed about three feet wide, filled with perennials, and I can remember now the pleasure attending the procession of flowers, and the excitement we used to feel as each favorite made its appearance. Clumps of white and crimson peonies, sweet-williams, ragged robins, double buttercups, china and clover pinks, foxgloves, London pride,

mourning bride, and, most beautiful of all, the lilies; first, the clumps of golden yellow, then the pure white (what we call now the Easter lily), and then the gorgeous tigers, the Japanese varieties being then practically unknown. At the gate the path branched off at right angles, still followed on either side by its box-edged borders. Here grew the roses. The yellow rose of early spring, the moss rose, the hundred-leaved rose, the blushing rose, the sweet briar and a dwarf rose, which I used for my doll's house. How well I remember the old-fashioned names! Besides these there would be the tea rose and monthly roses. On the other side, next to the fence, were the early tulips—peacock feathers, then bluebells, daffodils and hyacinths, and finally tulips, to be succeeded by the annuals—poppies, larkspur, asters, bachelor's buttons, coreopsis, candytuft, mimosa, heliotrope, verbena and the geraniums of that day—fish, 'beefsteak,' 'strawberry' and 'horsehoe.'

At the end of each path was an arbor, around which grew all the old, well-known shrubs, snowballs, syringas, sweet-scented flowering peach and almond, Paris japonica, 'fringe,' 'smoke' and others. Ribbon grass, old man and old woman, sage, thyme and other sweet herbs, and the homely little plant of hen and chickens, all were to be found in these delightful corners. The arbors themselves were beautiful to behold, covered with coral and sweet-scented honeysuckle, clematis and the dear old-fashioned climbing roses, the deep red Prairie Queen and the beautiful Baltimore Bee, with its creamy clusters and exquisite buds and blossoms, white in a bed around the arbors grew the stately hollyhocks and gay sunflowers. There were doubtless many more old friends in that old-time garden whose names I have overlooked, but I think I have given you a list long enough at all events to make a start with. No, do not thank me; the pleasure is mine in recalling the delight I used to take in that dear old garden in the good old summer time of my childhood."—N. Y. Tribune.

The Lesson of Emerson.

It is an immensely significant fact that this week has been celebrated all over this country the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Though the materialism which this Seer prophesied would come, and against which he strove with all his might, has arrived with a force that more than ever makes it clear that this is "great, intelligent, sexual, avuncular America," we yet suspect that the country over, our grasping pursuit of things to sojourn for at least a little space in the cool cloisters of the American Idealism for which he contended.

The reason for this is that we believe in our best moments that Emerson has truly defined and masterfully interpreted the real American idea. He believed in all high and noble and serene and splendid things, but applied his idealism to everyday affairs with a simplicity and a native good sense that must commend themselves to a practical people. Everybody conceded that he kept his fences in repair. Even Brook Farm, that most tempting of social Utopias, did not allure him. When he was invited to join the party at West Roxbury he merely replied that he thought investments were safer at Concord. So he went his own way always with a quiet resolution and an unflinching sense of the difference between the actual and the ideal, which proves, as nothing else could, his probity, his sanity, his poise, his clearness, as well as his penetration of vision.

Because the indoor gardener had carried out the pretty conceit of a floral screen. It was a frame covered with large mesh wire screening, and on this she had trained flowering vines, which grew in a box attached to the bottom of each panel, one of which was covered with trailing nasturtium, another with white clematis and the third with passion flowers; all of these she coaxed into bloom successfully. In addition, she had stands for pots wherever light and air were attainable. These she used for massing color effects with the most happy results. In a country house sunflower border culture would be still easier, and it would certainly add greatly to the beauty of an interior.

A great deal has been said about Emerson's maxim, "Insist upon yourself," and comparatively small stress laid upon his own adherence to this principle. He himself was only thirty-four that he uttered in the oration, which Dr. Holmes has called out his intellectual Declaration of Independence, those thrilling words which, while they called his Harvard hearers to individualism, asserted his own fine faithfulness to the doctrine he preached: "Meek young men answer the world of washing them were safer at Concord. So he went his own way always with a quiet resolution and an unflinching sense of the difference between the actual and the ideal, which proves, as nothing else could, his probity, his sanity, his poise, his clearness, as well as his penetration of vision.

Washable kid gloves would be more popular if the proper way of washing them were more general. They are more easily washed and will be appreciated. Make a *roux* of one tablespoonful each of butter and flour, add half a cupful of rich milk or cream. Half a cupful of stewed tomatoes is stirred into the *roux* and a pinch of soda added. Finally add a cupful of grated cheese and an egg slightly beaten. Wash and soak in milk over night will be found exceedingly tenacious and sweet when used for kid gloves next morning.

Cream dressing goes well with a mixture of celery and apple, of apple and English walnuts, or of chicken and celery, and is made as follows: Rub the yolks of three hard-boiled eggs to a powder, and mix with the raw yolk of one egg until a smooth paste is secured, and add one teaspoonful of melted butter, half a teaspoonful of salt, a little pepper, and, slowly, one cup of thick, sweet cream. Beat thoroughly, and then the last add two tablespoonsfuls of vinegar.

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LIVER ILLS.

DR. RADWAY & CO., New York:
Dear Sirs—I have been sick for nearly two years, and have been doctoring with some of the most expert doctors of the United States. I have been bathing in and drinking hot water at the Hot Springs, Ark., but it seemed everything failed to do me good. After I saw your advertisement I thought I would try your pills, and have used nearly two boxes; been taking two at bedtime and one after breakfast, and they have done me more good than anything else I have used. My trouble has been with the liver. My skin and eyes were all yellow; I had sleepy, drowsy, feelings; felt like a drunken man; pain right above the navel, like as if it was bite on top of the stomach. My bowels were very constipated. My mouth and tongue were most of the time, appetite fair, but food would not digest, eat settle heavy on my stomach, and some few mouthfuls of food came up again. I could eat only light food that digests easily. Please send "Book of Advice."

RESPECTFULLY,
BEN ZAUGG, Hot Springs, Ark.

Radway's Pills

Price 25c a box. Sold by Druggists or sent by Mail. Send to DR. RADWAY & CO., 53 Elm Street, New York, for Book of Advice.

Poetry.

VAIN IS THY COURSIING.
Courting the sands, with heaving chest and eyes afame,
Seeking thro' mist and fog—the lost—the heart's desire,
Heedless of the night, of murmuring ocean's lyre,
Yearning to grasp the winnings of an ill-played game.
Back! thou fool; vain is thy coursing.
That which thou seekest, sleeps—a dream of long ago;

Too late! The wine is spill'd and thy song an echo;

Only a shadow is passing.

None were fashioned fairer than she, whose broken sway.

Is over and under the ruins of yesterday.

The rose of promise is withered, the fragrance

Thou art alone, to backward course, in discon-

tent.

Didst hope to gather, thornless, in beauteous glow,

Prismatic glories, then, neglecting, find them so?

GEORGE HERRIOTT.

WHEN THE FROGS BEGIN TO CROAK.

I.

When a noisy chorus swells
From the meadows, swamps and dells;
Through the night in high revels

The way is broke—

Of the Frost King's boisterous reign.

Springtime gladness we acclaim

Balm in the air again,

When the frogs begin to croak.

II.

Prophets they of bud and flower,

Singing field and scented bower.

Heralds fair Flora's dower

Ere she's awake;

On each blossomed rose a peer

Telling what we love to hear;

"Golden lids will soon appear!"

After frogs begin to croak.

JAMES D. KIMBALL.

FAIRY GIFTS.

Lady, the fairies at your birth
Brought you the sweetest flowers of earth.

To grace your lips and cheeks they chose

Carnations and the brier rose;

With hyacinths of shadowy dye

They touched your eyelids and your eyes;

And whitest lilles washed with dew

Yielded their loveliness to you.

But when away the fairies went

In came an elf on mischief bent,

Who, vexed with all that had been done,

Took out your heart and left a stone.

—Edward Wright.

FORGOTTEN.

Belinda soon will be a bride;

Her gown is white, writes she;

A crepe de chine of finest kind,

And fits entrancingly.

The bodice has a hundred tucks

And fifty yards of lace,

Put round the yoke and down the front

And every other place.

The skirt is shirred all round the top

And flares out at the feet;

The whole thing, so Belinda says,

Is just too simply sweet.

Belinda writes me pages ten,

And are much the same;

She's told me everything except

The happy bridegroom's name.

—Washington Post.

BROTHERHOOD.

That plenty but reproaches me,

Which leaves my brother bare.

Not wholly glad my heart can be

While his is bowed with care.

If I go free and sound and stout

While his poor fetters clank,

Unstated still, I'll still cry out,

And plead with whom I thank.

Aimighty! Thou who Father be

Of him, of me, of all,

Draw us together, him and me,

That whatsoever fail,

The other's strength decline

No task of succor that his lot

May claim from son of Thine.

I would be fed, I would be clad,

I would be housed and dry,

But if so my heart is sad,

What benefit have I?

Best he whose shoulders best endure

The load he brings relief,

And best shall be his joy secure

Who shares that joy with grief.

—E. S. Martin, in Poems and Verses.

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?od schifware et, et

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N. Y. Sun

Miscellaneous.

The Irrigated Land.

As Mrs. Clawson entered the kitchen carrying a pan piled high with new potatoes, she threw an impetuous sharp glance toward her husband. He was standing near a chair, his hand resting weakly on its back.

"You kin talk to me forever, Hi Clawson," said Long at eight o'clock; it's about seven now."

"Mother," Clawson said, "you ain't surely goin' to let our boy go away without 'is supper?"

She answered his impertinence with a stony stare.

"You jes' hitch up now, Hi. I'll cook you a bite after—after he—some time tonight."

To be misunderstood always made Clawson flinch, embarrassed, as from a blow. He rose slowly, moving of the porch with uncertain step.

Tears began to rain down Mrs. Clawson's face.

Presently she heard her son coming down the stairs. Her attention followed his step as he strode into the parlor, then crossed the hall to the spare room. Her heart's pulse began to quicken as he hastened, toward the door of the room. The door opened with a jerk, scraping over the floorboards.

Her son sprang past her to the edge of the porch, where he crouched down, bracing his head against a small, upright post.

Mrs. Clawson muttered, as to herself: "Of all people in the world! An' fur' us, in a State a thousand miles long, to set ourselves right down next to a pleat-o' mortgaged property, yet never seen nothin' like about us, until we needed our water—water."

She sniffed contemptuously, then fell into a brooding silence.

The sound of wheels presently reached Mrs. Clawson's acute ears. She noted the grating noise as the wheels scraped along over the broken stone, and she recalled how her son, only yesterday a little while he said, still observed her mother's ways.

"Hi, Bobbie, mebbe your mother kin learn to swallow her hard feelin's."

Mrs. Clawson set the lighted lantern under the tall pines, where the frigging ditch made its abrupt turn.

Then she bent stiffly over the stones her husband had patched into the wall in the morning. One of the stones stood up large and angular above the others. Mrs. Clawson tugged at it with awkward, outstretched arms. At last she succeeded in loosening it and pushed it forward into the ditch.

The water gurgled and seeped through the trench to form itself a slender little stream.

Mrs. Clawson, now seizing the lantern, held it at arm's length and cast a quick look at the dark, rocky, uneven stones lying near the newly made opening. This she succeeded in dislodging also. And when the water flowed over the bank in a darker, thicker stream, at last trickling down into Mary Long's trench, Mrs. Clawson chuckled grimly.

Certainly it would surprise no one that through a loose wall should find for itself an opening, nor that afterward the refreshing stream should be allowed to pursue its own beneficent way.

Mrs. Clawson continued to laugh as she slung the lantern over her arm and picked her steps to the tool shed, where she had found the hoe half hour earlier.

It had grown very dark. When she started down the hill she could hardly see three feet before her.

"I come after yeh, Sue," her husband's voice said out of the shadow of an apple tree. "Is there anything the matter with yeh?"

"Nothin' I'm aware of," she replied in a non-committal tone.

"I ain't sick, are ye, Sue? Well people don't wander around after dark."

"People should mind their own affairs, father," she replied.

"Would yeh mind my takin' the lantern, Sue?"

She thought she heard a note of covert triumph in his voice.

"Take it if you want," she spoke indifferently.

"I'm cold. I want to get back to the house."

He took the lantern from off her arm. She watched him curiously as his dark figure stumbled up the hill and stooped over the broken wall.

When he returned to her side he said: "Why didn't yeh tell me. I'd done it fer ye."

"Done what?" she asked.

He burst into a laugh. It was the first laugh of unalloyed satisfaction he had enjoyed for years.

She clutched his arm.

"I expect yeh'll hold that over my head like a sword," she called again. But he was at her side, and followed her heavily over the plank laid across the trench.

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"I expect yeh'll hold that over my head like a sword," she called again. But he was at her side, and followed her heavily over the plank laid across the trench.

Mrs. Clawson walked with long strides through the young orchard. When she came to the bank, where the footpath descended precipitately to the creek, she stopped, looking up, down, across. The water dashed, foaming, from among the tumbled mass of boulders.

She went down the path, brushing against the willows. At the opening, where the boulders had been scattered, she stood, her hands in her pockets, laughing.

"Whatever has become of that boy of ours," she said affectionately. "Took his rods and fly-out book with him early this mornin'. Said he'd be back at dinner time, sure. Well, Clawson, how'd you git along with the work?" She turned a suspicious eye on her husband.

"I tightened the wall," he replied meekly.

They walked along silently to the kitchen door. Mrs. Clawson went on, gazing round at every direction, shading her eyes with her brown, many-hands. She tried to decipher the spaces of shadow among the thickets and trees near the creek. She thought she saw a splash of dark red and gold color.

"Must be the sun strikin' on the back o' wild cattle. They been a-strayin' round here lately."

She started toward the creek. Then, with a wavering movement, turned and hurried back to her feet.—San Francisco Argonaut.

The beau of his day was distinguished by his long and flowing hair waving in the wind, his hair of silk or beaver (the latter the more expensive), the crown high and narrowing to the top; as Stubbes, the historian, says, standing up nearly a foot high, "like the spear or shaft of a steeple." Many of the gallants of the day wore gloves in their hats as a mark of their ladies' favor. Under the left was a long lock of hair, called a love-lock, which was generally tied with red ribbon. This fashion had become so notorious that Fryne wrote an express treatise against it in 1628.

Dr. A. J. Butler claims that the story of the Elizabethans in England was fully as extravagant as that of the women of the Old Dispensation and their fellow Jews of the Old Dispensation and themselves of the New Testament, they gave up the Sabbath and kept the first day of the week holy. This change was hastened, perhaps, by the conversion to Christianity of many pagans, who had never kept the Sabbath and had no feeling for that as a holy day. The change was made, probably, before the end of the first century of our era. The Germans and

The Horse.**Sore Shoulders.**

Sore shoulders are more in evidence when the heavy run of spring work is on, after a long winter of irregular work and confinement in the stable than they are now, but even at this season there are cases when much discomfort is caused by a little extra care, could be averted. There are horses with deformed shoulders or thin skins that are very easily put wrong in this way, but, as a rule, the defect is more in the horseman than the horse.

The collar must be made to fit comfortably and be kept clean and smooth, and the traces made equal length as to have the strain fairly balanced to both shoulders. The collar should be taken off as soon as the horse is out of the yoke, and, if necessary, the shoulder washed with cold water. Carbolicated vaseline is an excellent application, both to prevent and heal sore shoulders.

Breeding for Drafters.

The farmer who makes up his mind to breed drafters for the market should by all means first post himself as to the sorts which bring the best prices, advises the Breeder's Gazette. This he can do by paying a short visit to any of the great centers. He may then form his own conclusions as to how he may best reach like results. If he visits such a wholesale market, he will discover that the highest priced gelding is almost an exact counterpart of the stallion of the same breed he has seen with some great show. The two will be very close mates, due allowance being made for the influence of the unexacting knife. That fact carries with it the lesson he is seeking to learn. He must use the very best stallion he can find. He must let no \$5 or \$10 or \$15 stand in the way of obtaining the services of a high-class breeding horse.

Unless fairly driven to it by necessity, which as it knows no law is a valid excuse for many lapses, he must retain his best sires to produce the next generation and he must stick obstinately at it. If he does that success will come just as surely as he makes the effort. He must make up his mind that he must feed his horses heavily enough to promote the most growth possible. In short, he must proceed along the lines already laid down for him to follow.

It is safe to say that from this time forward the buyers will always discriminate sharply between the medium and the choice drafter on the market, and there never will be a day when the profits from the sale of the latter will not be far greater than from the former. In fine, the farmer who would succeed as a breeder of drafters must make up his mind that he must go into the business determined to work at it unrelentingly and in accord with the teachings of the market and the facts around him on every hand.

Rhythmic (208) is the most noted blind horse of today. One of the most famous in other times was Blind Tom, or Sleepy Tom, as he was known on the track. He was raced successfully for several years, and in his first race in 1873 distanced his field in the first heat in 2:40. He made a record of 2:12 in the last heat of a fiveheat race in 1879.

For plowing soil ground and harrowing, put in three horses. A man can drive three horses as easily as he can two. Three horses have double the effective force of two horses. Keep the stable clean; open the windows to admit the air; the troughs and mangers should be cleaned out daily; sprinkle one tablespoonful of salt over the grain once a day. We find it an excellent plan to rest the horses occasionally, and, to give a little water between meals. When the weather is hot and the work heavy, let them take their time; they should never be overcheated. If warm when brought in from work, let them cool off before watering. For chafed shoulders, wash with warm water and castile soap, wipe dry and rub on a little crude petroleum or rock oil. If shoulders are ulcerated, wash them with castile soap and apply the oil. If possible, let the horse rest a few days, or use a horse-strap in place of the collar. The teams should be given to careful, trusty men and those who know how to handle both the team and the plow.

The negotiations of E. E. Smathers of New York for Charter Oak Park, Hartford, Conn., have been completed, although the papers have not been passed between Mr. Smathers and "Andy" Welch and A. S. Jones of Cincinnati, the owners of Charter Oak. It may be that the change of ownership will result in the match race between Lord Derby and Major Delmar, scheduled for July 4, being held at Hartford. Charter Oak Park was bought by Welch and Jones several years ago for \$20,000, and since that time the new owners have spent about \$30,000 in improving it, so that now it is one of the finest trotting parks in the country.

About four hundred entries have been secured for the draft-horse parade in Boston, Memorial Day, enough to make a procession almost three miles long. These include six-in-hands, four-in-hands, pairs and singles and some fine-looking turnouts are expected, even if every horse, vehicle and harness is supposed to be in daily use for business purposes.

June 1 is the date on which entries to the early-closing events of the New England Trotting Horse Breeders' Association will close. These purses will be contested at Revere, Mass., Sept. 14 to 18, and will be run in the line of the Grand Circuit.—C. H. Jewell, secretary.

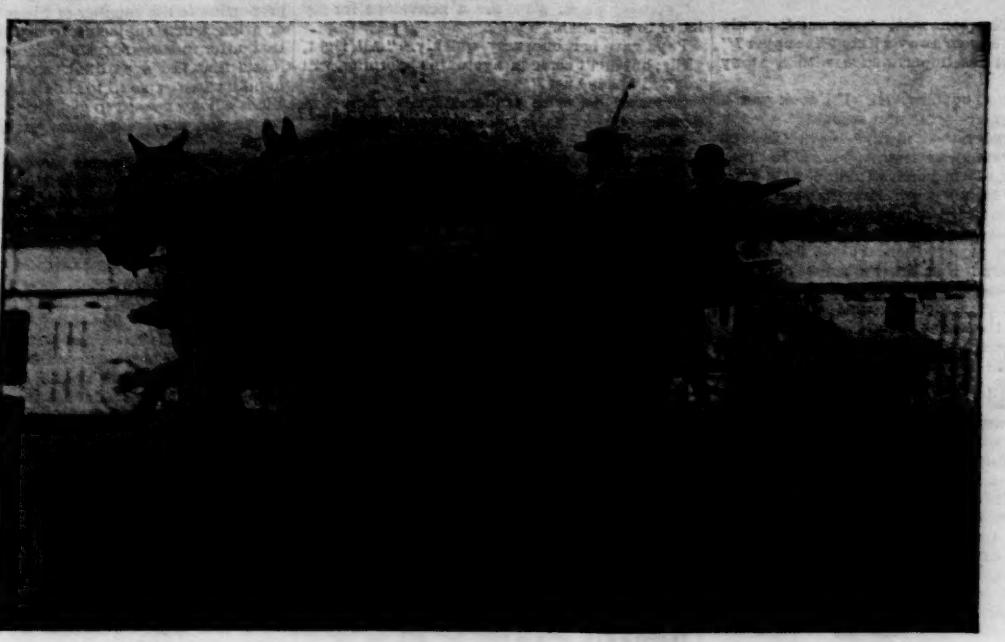
The stakes for the meetings to be held at Ploughing and Pasture Henry in the Champaign Valley Circuit have been reopened to close July 1. For entry blanks send to W. T. Burchfield, secretary, Ploughing, N. Y.

One of the important fall races is that of the Kentucky Horse Breeders' Association, Oct. 6-7. A sum of \$30,000 is offered for the races, which number ten.

Something of a novelty in the line of horse shows will be a midsummer exhibition in Atlantic City, N. J., during the week beginning July 14. Cash prizes to the value of \$3000 are offered.

Notes from Washington, D. C.
The American leg will again break the sacred presence of the Sultan. Minister Loeblich at Constantinople, who has recently resumed diplomatic relations with Turkey on behalf of the United States, reports that the prohibition of American ports, which has been in effect in Turkey for the past few years, has been removed and orders issued to permit imports upon the usual examination.

FROM "FIRST-HAND BITS OF STABLE LIFE," BY FRANCIS M. WAKE.
Published by Little, Brown & Co., and through whose courtesy the illustrations in this issue are reproduced.



A CAPITAL PHAETON PAIR.
Mrs. John Gerken Driving Brandon and Belmar.



FOURTEEN MILES AN HOUR.
Mr. Alfred G. Vanderbilt and his four.

The small twenty-two calibre rifle is not a bad implement on the farm. It may be useful in thinning out the gopher squirrels rats and in killing and driving off the English sparrows. The last is not only a nuisance but a detriment to any farm, and while he is pugnacious and persistent, if he is hunted good and hard for a few weeks, he will clear out. The driving away of the sparrow from the farm is something more than a matter of mere sentiment. True, he lights all the other birds and drives away more attractive and sweet-singers away whose presence is a pleasure to every one, but at the same time he is driving off birds which help to keep down the insect pests which destroy the products of the orchard, garden and field. The sparrow is now admitted to be worse than useless. He destroys practically nothing himself which is a detriment to man and he keeps other birds from doing so.

"There is no section of the world," said Secretary Wilson of Agriculture, in speaking of his last tour of the South, "which offers such inducements for diversified farming as the southern section of the United States. I believe that the next few years will see a development greater than has ever taken place in any section of our country, and the keynote of this will be diversified crops, the doing away with the single crop, and the feeding of crops on the farm."

A new process cereal company is now operating near Washington, D. C. It employs what is known as the "steel-cut" method. Instead of grain being crushed and mashed as in all other processes of grinding, the berries or kernels are flaked or cut off with steel knives. This it is claimed gives the product a great advantage over other processes. For instance, by the ordinary method of grinding corn, much of the meal is in the form of dust which packs in between the larger particles and soon causes the meal to heat and spoil. For this reason corn is always kiln dried and this destroys much of its sweetness and lightness. The corn meal made by the steel-cut process is something on the order of a very fine granulated sugar; there is no powder or dust in it, and it acquires itself and therefore needs no kiln-drying.

The people who are maintaining that the Desert Land Law and the Compensation Clause of the Homestead Law should be repealed because they are in the interests of the speculator and the land monopolists, to give the description a political twist, are much encouraged by the utterances of President Roosevelt at various points on his Western trip. The President believes and rehearses at almost every opportunity that the great land areas of the West, which belong to the whole people of the United States, must be free from the possibility of speculative acquisition, and that this will pass from the Government only to those who propose to make homes and live upon them. The clause contained in President Roosevelt's first message to Congress, that "Throughout our history the success of the homemaker has been but another name for the upbuilding of the nation," has become a

the rice-growing industry of Louisiana and Texas has reached, during the last three years, enormous proportions, due largely to the introduction by the Department of Agriculture of a new Japanese variety of rice and to the operation of extensive and improved irrigation plants.

The guinea worm will again break the sacred presence of the Sultan. Minister Loeblich at Constantinople, who has recently resumed diplomatic relations with Turkey on behalf of the United States, reports that the prohibition of American ports, which has been in effect in Turkey for the past few years, has been removed and orders issued to permit imports upon the usual examination.

In Europe over fifty percent of the cattle

of copper, four pounds fresh lime, forty to fifty gallons of water. Dissolve the copper sulphate either in hot water or by suspending it in a coarse bag in a vessel of cold water. Dilute to twenty gallons and pour in the lime, which has been previously slaked and diluted to ten gallons, stirring frequently the while. Add water to make up to the forty or fifty gallons. A spraying mixture for mildew consists of two ounces potassium sulphate dissolved in ten gallons of water.

WH Irrigation Pay Farmers?

Irrigation is not merely a recourse to insure the safety of a crop. It has been demonstrated beyond question, both by practical experience and systematic experiments, that growth and production can be profitably pushed by irrigation when the natural moisture seems insufficient. In this respect irrigation aligns itself with fertilization as a factor in intensive culture.

A common error grows out of the large scale upon which irrigation is generally known to be carried on, involving canals and ditches too expensive for individual undertaking. The impression is made that considerable capital and engineering skill are necessary to success, but as a matter of fact profitable irrigation is easily attainable by small effort. It lends itself readily to small individual or co-operative undertaking, developing water whose presence may be almost unsuspected or utilizing water which ordinarily is either wasted or is a positive detriment when not turned to productive service.

When a farm is so located that the buildings are on an elevation and a greater portion of the farm land slopes away from the elevation, an irrigation system on a small scale can be constructed by means of a good well, with a windmill as power. A reservoir is built where a large supply of water can be kept. It can be made from stone, or gravel and cement, to make a very durable structure.

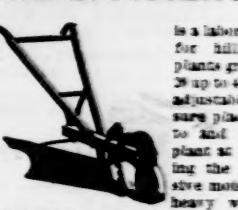
The reservoir should be round if made of gravel and cement. If square, the corners may crumble and break off. In cold climates the stone foundation should be deep and the outside be made smooth, so that the frost has no chance to heave it. Where stone is expensive or distant, but where gravel or coarse sand can be found near at hand, the structure need not cost much outside of the labor. A skillful mason is not needed. An ordinarily intelligent farmer can do the whole work after getting the formula for mixing the gravel and cement (grout). The work may be distributed through two or more years.

The outlet for the water must be from the base, through pipes or tiles large enough and lower at the mouth, so as to keep the pipes dry during cold weather. For summer supply the windmill can be in operation from spring, day and night, until the reservoir is filled, and the larger it is the greater can be the supply of water. The water may be run upon the land through pipes, tiles or ditches. K. HENDERSON.

Cambridge, Wis.

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THE EFFICIENT HILLER

is a labor-saving implement for filling all kinds of plants grown in rows from 2 to 10 inches apart. The adjustable machine is simply placed in the soil close to and over the roots of plants to each side, preventing the plant from entering moisture, drainage and hungry soil. Power and

machines are steel, designed to follow Cambridge.

V. A. WHITRECK, Apartment 3, Cambridge, Wis.

NO WIND REQUIRED

Portable Pumping Outfit

By and by

the adjustable machine is simply placed in the soil close to and over the roots of plants to each side, preventing the plant from entering moisture, drainage and hungry soil. Power and

machines are steel, designed to follow Cambridge.

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55 Washington Street, North, BOSTON

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When you see the above trade mark on a label you are sure that you are getting the genuine KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE.

That means that you are getting the only absolutely true and reliable remedy for Spavin, Ring Bone, Corn, Blisters and other forms of lameness in horses. A single bottle may cure your horse. It has worked that way for years.

Dr. B. J. Kendall, Esq., Enfield Falls, Vt., says: "I have had 2000 cases of horses treated with my Spavin Cure. I have never had a failure. I consider myself the best horse doctor in the country. You may try my Spavin Cure, your confidence is safe with me."

W. H. Smith, Esq., Worcester, Mass., says: "I have used Dr. B. J. Kendall's Spavin Cure with great success. I consider it the best horse doctor in the country."

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